

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6753

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S E C R E T MADRID 5450

EXDIS

PERSONAL FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP

SUBJ: UNGA BILATERAL MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

LOPEZ RODO

1. FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ RODO IS NOW ON THE HIGH SEAS PREPARING FOR HIS PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS AT THE UNGA AND EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS MEETING WITH YOU. HE IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 26.

2. I AM CONCERNED THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO CONFIRM TO HIM, BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM MADRID, HIS ANTICIPATED MEETING WITH YOU IN NEW YORK. AS YOU KNOW, HE HAS REQUESTED A LONG MEETING, EVIDENTLY IN HOPES OF INITIATING A RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL PROMOTE THE DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH LIE AHEAD ON THE RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. YOUR INITIAL MEETING WITH LOPEZ RODO THEREFORE MAY WELL SET THE TONE FOR OUR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH A RELATIVELY NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

3. WHILE APPRECIATING YOUR HEAVY SCHEDULE IN NEW YORK AND THE PRESSURES OF OTHER MATTERS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE, I EARNESTLY HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO MEET WITH LOPEZ RODO AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH TO ASSURE HIM OF OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN PURSUING A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH

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SPAIN.

4. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FIND THE TIME FOR A LONG MEETING,
EVEN A BRIEF EXCHANGE BETWEEN YOU AND THE SPANISH FOREIGN
MINISTER WOULD SERVE THIS ESSENTIAL PURPOSE, ALTHOUGH IT
WOULD NOT BE COMPLETELY REPOSNSIVE TO HIS HOPES.

5. I HOPE THEREFORE THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOPEZ RODO'S
ANTICIPATED MEETING WITH YOU CAN BE CONFIRMED TO HIM UPON
HIS ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 26.
RIVERO

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